

**cmf**  
center for  
working families

**GREEN**   
**JOBS** **NY**

William Paterson University: April 20, 2010

# THE PROBLEMS

1. Global warming
2. High energy costs hurt homeowners
3. Income inequality & unemployment
4. Most efficiency programs either require capital upfront or target only very low-income owners for grant-funded retrofits



# THE SOLUTION: GREEN JOBS/GREEN NY

1. Eliminates need for upfront capital; a residential retrofit investment fund pays for the work. Most owners will have option of paying back the fund at a rate that is less than the amount of their monthly savings on their utility bill.
2. Targets homeowners at the moderate-middle income levels not suited for existing energy efficiency programs
3. Empowers community organizations, job trainers and contractors to participate in program design and implementation
4. Uses public \$ to leverage even more private \$

# **The CWF GJ/GNY Vision:**

**You want to get a retrofit...**

## **What happens next?**

- 1.** You call the program hotline or contact your local CBO. After an intake worker or organizer asks basic screening questions, an auditor is dispatched.
- 2.** The audit identifies retrofits with 10-15 year payback
- 3.** If you decide to participate, you can choose your own qualified contractor or ask the program to provide one who is participating in a community benefits agreement.

4. The program pays the contractor directly (and swiftly!) with funds from a Residential Retrofit Investment Fund, created with private investments.

5. You keep ~20% of the projected energy savings. You pay the other 80% back to the fund until investors are repaid. After that, you keep all of the savings.

6. If you sell your home, the new owner takes over the payments.

# How can NY pay for it?

**NYS allocated \$112 million from RGGI funds!**

**A portion of this could leverage \$4+ billion for a Residential Retrofit Fund**

**...that pays itself back in 10 years**

(as homeowners save on energy bills and slowly repay costs)

**...and produces \$1.1b for NYS households**

(in homeowners' energy savings)

**...and results in other benefits!**

...like no need for new power plants, reductions in building emissions, less pressure on sewers & better health.



# How do we build the workforce?

- **Increase homeowners' demand for retrofits**
  - Use community groups as delivery mechanism
- **Train for jobs that actually exist**
  - Local networks, led by community groups, organize jobs pipelines and work w/ contractors to plan
- **Help contractors expand and hire**
  - Bundle retrofits in one area
  - Support small, new, minority/women owned businesses
- **Support local & equitable hiring**
  - Incentivize local hiring
  - Support good wages
  - Create pathways for unions to work in retrofits.

